

FELLOWSHIP OF EVANGELISTS AND MINISTERS

By Grace - Through Faith (Eph.2:8)

Spring 2022 Newsletter



The Brightness Of His Glory

by Frank Rowley

God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high; Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they. For unto which of the angels said he at any time, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee? And again, I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to me a Son? And again, when he bringeth in the firstbegotten into the world, he saith, And let all the angels of God worship him. And of the angels he saith, Who maketh his angels spirits, and his ministers a flame of fire. But unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom. Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows. And, Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the

foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands (Hebrews 1:1-10).

Introduction

The broad highways in the Book of Hebrews are among the finest highways in the Word of God. They take us to the destination of sheer delight in the realms of our redemption and salvation in our Lord Jesus Christ.

Highways have a starting place

Adam and Eve highway started in a paradise garden.

Moses highway started in a river cradle by bulrushes.

David highway started on the hills caring for sheep.

Isaiah highway started in the city of Jerusalem.

Samuel highway started in the dark Jewish Temple.

James, John, Peter highway started on Galilee shore.

Nicodemus highway started at night time.

Zacchaeus highway started in a sycamore tree.

Jesus human highway started in Bethlehem hay stable.

Paul spiritual highway started on the Damascus Road.

Where did your spiritual highway start.

Leeds. Hunslet. Upper Wortley. Castleford. St Kitts & Nevis.

Southampton. Liverpool. Bath....???

Highways have scenic surroundings

When attending Bible College I regularly used the M62 which goes over the Pennines. Highest highway in England. Beautiful views. (Longest GB hw M6).

Adam and Eve were surrounded by natural beauty and colour. They had hundreds of choices at their disposal and made the wrong choice and we have suffered ever since. Personal choices are important.

David's highway was through the meadows and hills of Israel. He used a shepherd crook. Wildlife surrounded him with bees

and butterflies. He played and enjoyed music and melody on his instruments. He was aware of wild and dangerous animals. He was alert and agile.

Zaccheaus highway was large house. Large bank account. Good food and a generous hospitality. Jesus has a heavenly gift of changing us from who we were, to who we are. Change of lifestyle should follow our personal redemption.

Jesus highway is mapped out for us in the glorious gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, these men all spoke in their own way. Each telling what they had seen and experienced in their own ways and words.

We are taken to the town of Bethlehem on to Nazareth. We are taken to the waters of Galilee with fishing boats used as gospel pulpits. Jesus invited men to join his company as friends and trusting followers.

The group walked the harvest fields of wheat and barley. Using a little hand milled corn to eat for a walking snack. These little truths are so real and meaningful.

There is no sense of Jesus being in a hurry and he never felt the need to apologise or say sorry. He was happy sitting on the ledge of a deep water well talking to a woman who was stressed out lonely and frightened with life in general. She got water and through Jesus she got well.

On one occasion Jesus made a blind man receive his sight back. He mixed a strange concoction and smeared it over the man's sightless eyes. His method would not have been endorsed by the doctors and consultants of the Leeds Macular Eye Clinic that have helped saved my sight over 8 years treatment including dozens of injections directly into my eyes.

Jesus does things in his own way. He is very quick with diagnosis and treatment. He is, in every way beyond comparison. I am so pleased he opened my spiritual eyes so I can the brightness of his glory.

Jesus worked firmly yet loving with his disciples. He was a daily encouragement them and often he corrected them. He was a good shepherd to his twelve chosen friends. And equally so he was so to the nation of Israel and beyond. The gospel of Jesus has the potentially of saving every person on earth. It is packed with power. It has worldwide appeal.

Highways have a destination

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life (John 3:16) ... “In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you” (John 14:2).

Conclusion

Redemption is leading us as trusting obedient followers of Jesus to a place higher than the clouds and beyond the sky. Heaven will shimmer with reflections of the brightness of his glory. The first thing we will see in heaven will be a lamb. The light of this Lamb will light the expanses of a sinless heaven. Make sure you are travelling the highway that has such a certain breathtaking destination.



There has been a suggestion to meet up as a fellowship sometime in 2022. Please contact Frank regarding suggestions for a date and venue.



News and Update

by Colin Ryan

For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin (Hebrews 4:15).

For Brenda and myself this one verse of God's mighty Word has been a great joy and uplifting as we have been through what can only be called 'a mighty time of trial.'

As we have said before we work in two chapels, one a small village chapel, the other a well attended chapel in the city. Both these have been through hard times spiritually.

The village chapel has only seven members with regular attendance being about ten. From the middle of November it has suffered hard and difficult times. Two of the people who come are Pat and Tony. Pat had a very serious fall, which resulted in two compound breaks in her right leg/ankle and is still unable to walk unaided. Tony (Chapel secretary) two weeks later had a stroke, although he has, to a large extent, recovered, he is no longer allowed to drive. They live two and a half miles from the chapel up a very steep hill.

A second couple are Andy and Peter (Chapel leader), Andrea, chapel organist, was rushed into hospital (at the same time Pat had her fall), with c-diff and is not yet home. We came home from the service on the first Sunday in November to find Brenda's mum on the floor. She was taken to hospital, over night, but returned there again after Christmas with kidney failure. She now needs constant care, which means Brenda has to stay at home with her most of the time.

On 18th January mum was diagnosed with mild Dementia and we wait for a brain scan. Four days later Brenda's brother-in-law was diagnosed with throat cancer. So the little chapel has not yet reopened.

At the City Chapel, things have not been good. Sadly there has been a split there on how Scripture should be followed. This happened before the above. Brenda and I were placed in a difficult possession, unaware of how far things had gone we were asked by some what we thought on certain parts of the Bible as they could not quite understand what was being preached. To this request I gave as honest an answer as I could, not given time to study and pray. Suddenly we became aware that that this was happening often and people (mainly older ones) we're saying "Colin said...."

Brenda and I, after prayer thought it would be best if we were to take a back seat in things at the chapel and stood down from somethings, until the matters were sorted out. Sadly, both the ministers took this personally and requested that we should "find a better shepherd elsewhere."

Gladly we are able to continue to help with the Monday Meeting for older people, as both ministers do not think that they have to be involved with this. It is only the under forties they work with. The meeting restarted on the second Monday in January and we get around 20 men and ladies there, most go to no other chapel meeting and hear no other Christian message.

Thus it is that the above verse has been to us a constant help, a constant joy. To know that Jesus suffered much, much more for us and He did it just because He wished too, is like a mighty shield around our faith, which we can say has grown much through all this hard time.

May His Great and Mighty Name. His incredible love and His Spirit's gentle hand be with all of you, both now and in all of the coming weeks.



Encouragement

by Ian Rowley

I have a friend that always encourages me whenever we meet, talk on the phone or sends me a card or a letter. She always mentions Jesus our superior encourager. She once said when I was going to the coast for a short holiday, "Go to the sea and contemplate what you are seeing." The size knocks you back, the power when it's stormy and the calmness when it's a beautiful summer's day.

To the people in Jesus' time it must have seemed endless and so deep. The Mediterranean Sea was/is called the Great Sea in the Bible. When I first looked at it as a new Christian it made me realise just how small we are and how great and mighty our Lord God Jesus is! People have got lost in its vastness, no signposts out at sea, but with Jesus He can calm the storms of life, bring calmness as He did in Matthew 8:26.

Many people are lost or get lost through life, just like our journey in life. If Jesus can calm the mighty storms at sea then

He can calm the storms in our lives, just as in the parable, we need faith in Him.

God parted the Red Sea so the Israelites could be saved, and destroyed their enemies. He stopped the River to lead the people to the Promised Land. What a wonderful, powerful Saviour. God saves and protects.

When I went to Spain many many years ago, I remember snorkelling and seeing the beauty below the waves, many kinds of fish, plants and creatures in various sizes and colours, I particularly remember swimming along when the seabed dropped about fifty feet, it took my breath away momentarily, as it was like dropping off a cliff, a very strange feeling. The sea from above is hiding a beautiful display of different creatures, plants, fish and so much that it is hard to visualise in our minds.

The last time I went to the coast I walked one evening on my own to the shore and thought about the sea, its greatness and just what's underneath the surface, it gave me a sense of just how amazing God is. It's deep and everything works together in unison, balanced and a purpose for all the fish, creatures and plants.

When we are sinners we upset that balance, are lost, and seem to be out of sync with life. People are dead, lost colourless and hopeless. The Bible is like the sea, if we go below the surface, vast, boundless, in the sea is life. In the bible there is life, it feeds as the sea does, but this is so much more, eternal boundless endless life. Study, I remember Frank a few years ago saying to pick something out of the Bible and study, I picked Exodus and I was rewarded by my reading, praying of the greatness of our Saviour God.

Look into the Bible and it will amaze with its endless vastness of wealth, colour, and knowledge. It can go deeper than you could

ever imagine. From lessons, laws, Love and Life. Jesus washes away sin and restores and sets you on a journey with purpose and never lost. There is so much there, the power of Christ in our lives, working with unison with the Holy Spirit, calm from the storm. You find that purpose in life, a beautiful balanced life in Christ, so swim deep into the Scriptures.



Actively Inactive

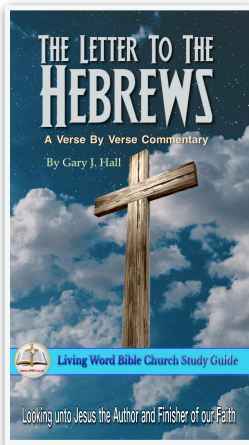
by Gary J. Hall

The headline describes my life since the beginning of November 2021. I have been largely confined to either laying down or sitting up on the bed because of sciatica. I'm finding it extremely painful to walk, so I am immensely grateful that we live in a bungalow. I was just getting over the worst of it in January, but took an accidental blow to my periformis muscle which has set me back again. The doctor gave me Diazepam, which was supposed to relax the muscles, but that just made things worse, so I am just taking standard painkillers (for what they're worth). I am in-line for a musculoskeletal assessment, but by the time the telephone call comes I'll probably be running marathons!

I have not been to church since this started, but I record my sermons and put them online. Margaret uses my sermon notes

and relays the teaching to the church every Sunday evening, so most of the people get the message twice in one day.

Throughout my 40 year ministry I have never missed a meeting due to sickness, and even when I felt ill, I found it immediately left me when I stood up to speak. This has been true while preparing sermons for the year and recording them. I just need the Lord to take away the muscle and pain in my leg and Gluteus Maximus (nicer description) now.



I am coming to the end of writing my commentary on the epistle to the Hebrews. This has become quite a large work. At present it is almost 300 A4 pages, which equates to around a 800 page printed book. Once it is proofread a few times, I hope to have it available for Kindle and possibly for printing sometime towards the end of this year. I have been incredibly blessed studying this vital part of Scripture, and though it might unsettle those who have not fully considered the reason for the epistle, I do pray that it will encourage the reader to trust in God's inspired Word rather than holding to any preconceived ideas or denominational biases.

I would value your prayers regarding the issues raised in this article. Though I thank God for giving me the strength to to active to some degree, I am looking forward to being actively active again.



For our light affliction, which is but for a moment,
worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory
2 Corinthians 4:17



Ministry Update

by Richard Hardy

Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching (Hebrews 10:25).

God bless to all from Southport. We hope that you are all keeping well. We can update you with some things that are happening within the life of the Church.

We have gladly been able to strengthen our leadership team. Since the last newsletter we have appointed a new Deacon to our Church. This has been a great blessing and much needed help and assistance.

We now have a Ladies Choir. A number of ladies from the church congregation sing during the Sunday service once per month. This has been a significant help and blessing. The ladies have thoroughly enjoyed the singing and we are blessed.

Ladies fellowship meets one Saturday per month. Numbers have increased and the ladies are learning together about the 'Fruit of the Spirit'. The studies are structured and they are working through a Bible Study booklet called "Lifebuilder Bible Studies : Fruit of the Spirit".

Children's work for continues and the youngsters are learning about Noah and the Ark. The children are learning the Scriptures about Noah. They are also learning some Christian songs about Noah and the Ark. The children go into the back

hall for Sunday School and they seem to be enjoying it very much. We hope and pray for other families and youngsters to come along.

We are working towards a regular men's fellowship and plans are underway.

Forthcoming special meetings: We currently have two planned during the next few months:

The Christian Institute meeting is on Wednesday 27th April 2022 at 7.30pm. We are looking forward very much to this. We have not had the C.I. to speak previously. We feel that this is a valuable ministry to support especially in the times we are living in. All welcome.

Also, we have the 'Friends of Israel Gospel Ministry' meetings with speaker Trevor Stewart-Sweet. Trevor will be coming on Wednesday 25th May 7.30pm and Sunday 29th May 11am. All welcome.

We are also trying to get a P.W.M.I. (Prophetic Witness Movement International) branch meeting arranged for the Autumn of 2022. We had to postpone the previous meeting due to the pandemic.

We are very pleased that a lot of the restrictions have now been removed and we are meeting again for Prayer/Bible study on Wednesday evenings. Please see website for regular diary updates





We Will Be Like Him

by Daniel Partner

God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Thessalonians 5:9). This truth is also found in 1 Corinthians 15, where we see that both living and dead believers will be given celestial, spiritual, incorruptible bodies at Christ’s return (vv. 40, 44, 51, 53). Without such a body, no one can meet the Lord in the air (1 Thessalonians 4:16–17).

The Philippians were told of this marvellous hope in a different way: Our bodies of humiliation will be transfigured to conform to Christ’s glorious body (Philippians 3:21). We can get an idea of what that body is like by recalling that the sight of it blinded Paul when he saw the Lord on the road to Damascus (Acts 9:3, 8, 18).

Our bodies will be transformed when the Lord descends from heaven (1 Thessalonians 4:16). This will happen “in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality” (1 Corinthians 15:52–53). What a glorious expectation! Our bodies will not be like Christ’s was before his resurrection. We won’t even be like he was before he returned to his Father. We will be like him as he is now—in glorious ascension. (Daily Devotional).

FEM website: www.femonline.co.uk

Frank's website: coloursofthetrinity.2truth.com

Richard's website: <https://birkdalebible.co.uk>

Gary's website: www.LWBC.co.uk